

Facts that you should know about the KIOWA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

We believe that our volunteer fire fighters, other emergency personnel and first responders should be equipped with the best equipment, facilities, safety gear and training that is reasonably available. The goal would be to provide for their safety while enhancing their capability to mitigate and manage emergency situations.

This Fire District would encompass all of Kiowa County, including the incorporated towns. (State and Federal land would be the only exclusion) The District would be formed according to Colorado Statute by a vote of the people and it would include a mill levy assessment. We would initially propose a levy of 3.5 mills. This amount could be increased or decreased based on the actual budgetary requirements once the District has been in operation for a period of time. Based on the 2015 County Assessed valuation, a mill generates \$42,046.00 which would total \$147,161 annually for the Districts operating budget. On the back are examples of how this increase would affect your annual tax liability.

ADVANTAGES:

- **Retirement benefits would be available to all volunteer fire fighters (which now are only offered to some).**
- **Options for Life and Disability Insurance which are not currently available to the departments.**
- **Possibility for stipends to be issued per event or annually.**
- **Home owner's insurance rates could be reduced.**
- **The ability to acquire grant funding that is not available to county and town fire departments.**
- **Combining of municipal and county fire departments to support and facilitate better County wide fire protection services.**
- **Better and more cost effective training for the volunteers that will help ensure their safety and the safety of the communities they serve.**
- **Uniform record keeping and compliance documentation.**

DISADVANTAGES:

After years of planning for a Fire District the only disadvantage we could find is that the need for a mill levy would be an increased tax burden on the property owners. Examples of the tax increase are on the back.

APPROXIMATE INCREASE IN TAX ON 3.5 MILLS FOR FIRE DISTRICT

RESIDENCE-	100,000 ACTUAL VALUE
	7,960 ASSESSED VALUE
	<u>X .0035</u>
	\$27.86 INCREASE

50,000 ACTUAL VALUE
3,980 ASSESSED VALUE
X .0035
\$13.93 INCREASE

**GRASS- .02 INCREASE PER ACRE
APPROXIMATELY \$3.20 ON 160 ACRES**

**DRY FARM- .15 PER ACRE (HIGHEST CLASS)
APPROXIMATELY \$24.00 ON 160 ACRES**

.05 PER ACRE (LOWEST CLASS)
APPROXIMATELY \$ 8.00 ON 160 ACRES

**IRRIGATED- .41 INCREASE PER ACRE (HIGHEST)
APPROXIMATELY \$65.60 ON 160 ACRES**

.17 PER ACRE INCREASE (LOWEST)
APPROXIMATELY \$27.20 ON 160 ACRES